TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

A News Letter

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BOARD OF DIRECTION TO MEET

Tentative plans have been made to hold a special meeting of the Board of Direction in Chicago May 13 or 14. Many important items will be discussed. Recent applications for membership will be considered.

Committee Chairmen - Will you prepare a preliminary report of your committee's activities for 1937, which can be presented to the Board at its May meeting. This is the only way the Board will have of knowing how you are progessing with your committee assignment.

CHICAGO REGIONAL MEETING

Plans have been made to hold a regional meeting of the Institute in Chicago on May 13th at the Sherman Hotel in conjunction with the 15th Annual Midwest Safety Conference. Colonel Willard Chevalier, President of the American Road Builders Ass'n., will be the principal speaker at a noon day luncheon. His topic will be "Is Highway Safety an Engineering Problem". Roger Morrison will preside. During the afternoon there will be three fifteen minute papers: "Coordination of Mass Transportation with Vehicular Control" by E. J. McIlraith, "Modern Railroad Grade Crossing Protection" by George Barton and "Organizing for Safety in Metropolitan Areas" by Walter Klapproth. Howard Ilgner will discuss the first paper, Ed O'Meara the second and Ray Hoffman the third. We hope a large number of Institute members can be present. This promises to be an interesting meeting.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED - IDEAS! IDEAS!! IDEAS!!! BLOCKS OF IDEAS!!!!

The Resolution Committee needs ideas for its Kansas City show. All members of the Institute are requested to contribute. No prizes are offered, no ideas returned, no credit given; the anonymous glory of having served your profession well will be your only reward. Send your ideas in a plain envelope to H. S. Simpson, 292 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

CONVENTION PROGRESS

Tom Seburn, Traffic Engineer of Kansas City, and Bob Mitchell, Traffic Engineer of Philadelphia, were in New York on March 9th to discuss arrangements for the annual meeting to be held at Kansas City October 10 to 12. It is certain that we can expect a widely advertised, smooth running, and interesting group of meetings at Kansas City. Tom Seburn hopes to be located in his new traffic engineering offices by that time so that he can show the type of quarters every traffic engineer should have.

PRESIDENT MORRISON

Roger L. Morrison visited the east the latter part of March and spoke before the National Pedestrian Association meeting at Providence. He also spoke before the traffic engineering class of the Bureau for Street Traffic Research, Harvard University. On the same visit he spent considerable time with the Secretary in New York discussing Institute problems and future activities.

POLICY COMMITTEE REQUEST

The Policy Committee on March 19th sent you a circular letter inviting suggested steps or changes in policy by which the Institute would benefit. Guy Kelcey, Chairman of this Committee, is anxious that you return your comments as soon as possible. Certainly all of you have ideas which you think would be beneficial to the Institute. Jot these down if you have not already done so and mail them either directly to Guy Kelcey, Post Office Box 38, Elizabeth, N. J. or to the Secretary. He will forward them to Mr. Kelcey.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD MEETING

Roy W. Crum, Director of the Highway Research Board, Washington D. C., has asked us to call your attention to the forthcoming issue of the Proceedings of the Sixteenth Annual meeting of the Highway Research Board. This book, attractively bound, includes three articles on traffic and safety. Two are by Institute members. The titles and speakers of the papers on traffic and safety are:

Organizing for Safety.....Sidney J. Williams
Estimating Vehicular Traffic Volume with the
Aid of Traffic Patterns.....Nathan Cherniack
Methods of Estimating Highway Traffic Volume...W. A. Sheldon

The price of the Proceedings is $1.75 with a 25% discount if orders are mailed before April 15.

SEBURN AND HARRISON

Tom Seburn, Traffic Engineer of Kansas City, and H. H. Harrison, Traffic Engineer, State Highway Department of Illinois, were in New York on March 8th to receive national awards from the National Safety Council. Tom Seburn, representing the Mayor, accepted the plaque for Kansas City which won the award for the safest city of group 2 population of the Intercity Safety Contest for 1936. H. H. Harrison, appearing for Governor Horner of Illinois, accepted the plaque which placed the State of Illinois at the top of the list for 1936. We can assure you that the presence and remarks by these two men at the award banquet boosted the traffic engineering profession several notches in the eyes of all those present.

NEW ROSTER

The new roster mentioned in the January News Letter will be issued within the next several weeks. This will replace the roster prepared June 1936. Let us again remind those members which have not notified us of any change of address to do so immediately. We would like to have this roster as correct as possible.

KANSAS CITY PROGRAM

Mr. Mickle informs us that the program of the Kansas City meeting is beginning to take definite shape. He urges all members to send in suggestions of subjects and speakers soon. Send them directly to Mr. Mickle, Ann Arbor, Michigan, or to the Secretary.

KANSAS CITY HOTEL RESERVATIONS

As a reminder of the circular letter recently sent you by Tom Seburn and Bob Mitchell let us quote the first paragraph of their letter.

"With the large attendance expected for the Annual meeting of the Institute and the National Safety Congress in Kansas City, hotel accomodations will be taxed to the limit. The convention dates for the Institute and the Safety Congress are October 10-12 and 11-15 respectively."

BUFFALO, N. Y.

For the past six months Wm. B. Powell,(Member) Traffic Engineer for the city of Buffalo, has been conducting a traffic survey with the assistance of W. P. A. funds, and has just secured an additional allotment of $21,000. for the continuation of this work. The principal objectives of the survey so far have been (1) the indexing of accident records from 1930 to date by locations; (2) the determination of traffic volumes at 250 signalized intersections as well as about 150 other important points; (3) special studies of pedestrian movement on principal streets in the business area; (4) thorough analysis of the "worst" accident intersections. The work in the future will center around the determination of speeds at about 200 stations, a survey of the parking facilities in the downtown area and cordon counts both at the city line and the boundary of the business area.

In conjunction with this survey the police department has been making a complete census of all traffic signs and other controlled devices in the city with a view of standardization in location and design. There are some ten thousand items to be included in this census.

Members of the Institute should be quite pleased to see the excellent and thorough job which Bill Powell is doing in Buffalo. You will recall that Bill became the official traffic engineer for Buffalo last year.

MICHIGAN CONTINUES WAR ON ACCIDENTS

The Michigan State Police in its continuing war on automobile accidents is initiating a new and extended program of accident investigation and prevention. Under this program the Bureau of Public Roads and the Highway Research Board of the National Research Council are to advise and assist in the organization of a model system for reporting accidents and analyzing the data for accident prevention purposes. The International Association of Chiefs of Police will assist in training the patrol force for investigating and reporting accidents.

To direct the statistical research, the Bureau of Public Roads has secured the services of W. Sherman Smith (Associate Member), who has been granted leave of absence by the University of Toledo for the purpose. He is being assisted by Howard W. Tillapaugh, on leave of absence from the Iowa Engineering Experiment Station.

The police program will be in charge of Lieut. F. A. Kreml (Affiliate), assisted by Geo. L. VanArsdall, formerly in charge of the Accident Prevention Bureau of the Louisville, Kentucky, Police Department.

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